(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) A survey for this line has been included in Budget, 1997-98.

(c) Does not arise.

Madras-Jaipur Superfast Express Train

434. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the route of Madras-Jaipur Superfast Express train to Jodhpur, Divisional Railway Headquarter which is an important town of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) There is no proposal to extend 9767/9768 Madras-Jaipur Express upto Jodhpur.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resources constraints.

Power Project of Hinduja at Vishakhapatnam

435. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh have met the Prime Minister for clearance of 1000 MW power project of Hinduja at Vishakhapatnam;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister have agreed and promised to clear all the projects mentioned by the Chief Minister; and

(c) if so, the latest position in regard to these project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister in May, 1997 for clearance of the 1000 MW Simhadri Project of NTPC. The project has since received investment approval of Government of India.

Telephone on Priority

436. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections allotted on out-of-turn/priority basis during the last six months in various metropolitan cities;

(b) whether the Government are considering for restoration of facility/special quota provided to MPs with suitable modification; and

(c) if so, the details alongwith present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) So far as the facility/special quota provided from time to time to Hon'ble MPs for recommendation of Twenty Five out of turn telephone connections anywhere in India is concerned, the question of restoration does not arise as the status-quo is being maintained.

Unutilised Funds

437. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated to various States for Tele-communications projects network remain unutilised or surrendered;

(b) if so, the details of the amount unutilised/ surrendered by each Telecom Circle in Maharashtra State during the last three years and reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken/proposed in the light of experiences gain so far; and

(d) the details of revised allocation of funds for the current year and progress of works for projects in Vidarbha region in particular upto 30.6.97 and reasons for delay if any, Telegraph circle-wise in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) The information has been called for from the concerned unit. The same will be placed